

Claims:

1. A broadcast data receiver, said receiver including recording media on which received data can be stored for subsequent selective retrieval, control means for controlling the operation of the recording media, processing means for processing of the received data to generate video and/or auxiliary data for display on a display screen (3) and characterised in that the receiver further includes a means to generate a display on screen (3), said display generated upon the user selection of one of a range of operating functions of the recording media to indicate to a user that the recording media is performing a function.
2. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the recording media is a hard disk drive.
3. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the display is generated at the time of user selection of a receiver operating function and ends when the receiver operating function has ended.
4. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the display is generated a pre-determined time period after user selection of a receiver operating function.
5. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the display is generated in a window (2) on the display screen (3).
6. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the generated display alters in

appearance during the passage of time for which the selected operating function is being performed.

7. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 6 characterised in that the receiver calculates the time for completion of the selected operating function and the appearance of the generated display alters at any instant with respect to the start and/or completion of the calculated time.
8. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the generated display includes a bar (6) and movable indicator means is provided in, on and/or adjacent the bar (6) to indicate to the user the passage of time of the selected operating function.
9. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 8 characterised in that the movable indicator means is an arrow or pointer (16) that moves relative to the length of the bar (6) during the passage of time of the operating function being performed.
10. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 8 characterised in that the movable indicator means is a colour interface which moves relative to the length of the bar (6) during the passage of time of the operating function being performed, said colour interface distinguishable from the colour of the bar.
11. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 7 characterised in that the movable indicator means includes a plurality of characters or lines which become visible or invisible during the passage of time of the operating function being performed.

12. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that a text message (4) is provided in addition to or as part of the generated display to indicate to the user that a selected operating function is being performed.
13. A broadcast data receiver according to claim 1 characterised in that the display is generated on screen (3) when any of play, record, search receiver functions are being performed.
14. A method of generating a display for a broadcast data receiver, said broadcast data receiver including recording media on which received data can be stored for subsequent, selective retrieval, control means for controlling the operation of the recording media, processing means for processing of the received data to generate video and/or auxiliary data for display on a display screen (3), and characterised in that said method includes said receiver calculating the time for completion of an operating function selected by the user using said control means, generating a display on the display screen (3) representing, at least in part, the time for completion of said user-selected operating function and said generated display in whole or part altering in appearance during the passage of calculated time to indicate to the user the stage at any instant with respect to the start and/or completion of the selected function.
15. A method according to claim 14 characterised in that the generated display includes a bar (6) and an indicator means is provided to move in, on and/or adjacent the bar

to indicate to the user the passage of time of the selected operating function.

16. A method according to claim 15 characterised in that the movable indicator is an arrow or pointer (16), said arrow/pointer moving relative to the length of the bar during the passage of time of the operating function being performed.
17. A method according to claim 15 characterised in that the movable indicator is a colour interface which moves relative to the length of the bar (6) during the passage of time of the operating function being performed, the colour interface being distinguishable from the colour of the bar.
18. A method according to claim 15 characterised in that the indicator means includes a plurality of characters or lines which become visible or invisible during the passage of time of the operating function being performed.